

VZCZCXRO6331
OO RUEHDE RUEHDH RUEHDIR
DE RUEHAD #0329/01 0911235
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 011235Z APR 09
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2314
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RHMFISS/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0129
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 0898

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 000329

SIPDIS

FOR S/SECC TODD STERN AND DSECC JONATHAN PERSHING
ALSO FOR NEA/ARP AND EEB/ESC/IEC/ENR (MONOSSON, SECOR, THOMPSON), AND
S/SRAP HOLBROOKE
AMMAN FOR ESTH HUB OFFICER (BHALLA)

E.O. 12958 03/24/2019
TAGS SENV, ECON, PREL, PGOV, AE
SUBJECT: (U) WHY THE UAE IS PRESSING FOR IRENA HQ
CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR RICHARD G. OLSON FOR REASONS 1.4 B AND D
REFS: A) ABU DHABI 301 B) ABU DHABI 199 C) ABU DHABI 170 D) STATE 27497

1. (C) Summary. The UAE's push (refs A-C) to host the headquarters of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) complements its politi
2. (SBU) Since the creation of IRENA in January, the UAE has actively campaigned to host the headquarters in Abu Dhabi. Though the argument th
3. (SBU) The most prominent example of UAE commitment is Masdar (www.masdar.ae), the Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company, which was launched in 20
4. (SBU) The UAEG wants Masdar City to be the host of IRENA, but its argument is based on more than just Masdar's credentials. Officials note
5. (C) COMMENT: Whether the USG can support the IRENA candidacy of the UAE ultimately depends on USG policy toward IRENA itself, and we do not
-- First: The UAE, unlike many supporters of renewables, has serious resources to put into the development of technology. This is a point that
-- Second: The UAE has been one of our most helpful security partners in the Middle East. UAE troops are in the fight in Afghanistan (in greate
ABU DHABI 00000329 002 OF 002
has not expressed any direct linkage between any of these initiatives and IRENA, it has clearly signaled that, having been helpful to the USG c
6. (C) UAE Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayid Al-Nahyan (AbZ) will raise this issue with Secretary Clinton during their 7 April meeting. OLSC